

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A filter manifold is provided in a water purification system and includes at least one filter element for producing relatively purified water, wherein the filter manifold incorporates a shut-off valve designed to prevent filter element removal unless the shut-off valve is first switched to a closed position for turning off the incoming water supply. The shut-off valve includes an elongated actuator lever which in a normal open position engages and retains a manifold latch plate in a latched position retaining the filter elements in connected relation with flow couplers to produce purified water. Upon movement of the actuator lever to a closed position shutting off the incoming water supply, the manifold latch plate can be unlatched from the filter elements to permit filter element removal and replacement.